Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 AF-08 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-07 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 /123 W

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R 161531Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5159 INFO USMISSION GENEVA USMISSION NATO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PARM UN UR US

SUBJECT: SSOD: SOVIET VIEWS ON U.S. REPLY TO SOVIET NON-PAPER

REF: (A) STATE 55999, (B) STATE 49218

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. MFA'S TIMERBAYEV REACTED TO OUR SSOD RESPONSE (REF A) BY AGREEING TO OUR FIRST FOUR POINTS BUT DISAGREEING WITH OUR POSITION ON SOVIET ATTEMPTS TO RELATE SSOD AND WDC. HE REAFFIRMED SOVIET POSTION THAT SSOD SHOULD LEAD TO WDC AND ASSERTED THAT USSR WILL WORK TO THIS END. HE ALSO FAVORED LARGE (10 METER) SSOD PREPCOM BUREAU, STATED THAT TROYANOVSKIY WOULD BE SOVIET REP TO PREPCOM, AND SAID SOVIETS WOULD LIKE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH U.S. END SUMMARY.

3. POLCOUNS AND EMBOFF GAVE SSOD RESPONSE TO MFA IO DIVISION DEPUTY TIMERBAYEV MARCH 16, LEAVING HIM COPY (NON-PAPER) OF POINTS A THROUGH F OF PARA 1, REF A. TIMERBAYEV HAD FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON OUR RESPONSE (KEYED TO SUB-PARAS.):
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- 3. HE NOTED AND AGREED WITH POINTS A, B AND C, ADDING ONLY WITH RESPECT TO C THAT SOVIETS THINK SSOD SHOULD NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT ANY DISARMAMENT EFFORTS, E.G., MBFR AND OTHER NON-CCD WORK.
- 4. ON CONSENSUS PROCEDURE (SUB-PARA D), HE REPLIED THAT

SOVIET MEMORANDUM TO SYG DID NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTION CONSENSUS. BUT "WE WOULD NOT OBJECT" TO SUCH A PROCEDURE. HE REMARKED, HOWEVER, THAT UNGA IS MASTER OF ITS OWN PROCEDURES AND MAY ADOPT ONE OF ITS OWN CHOOSING. AS PRECEDENTS FOR ADOPTING CONSENSUS PROCEDURES. HE NOTED SIXTH AND SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSIONS OF GA WHICH USED CONSENSUS AND THOUGHT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO NOTE THAT OTHER UN BODIES WHICH ACT IN A MANNER SIMILAR TO SSOD PREPCOM ALSO UTILIZE THIS PROCEDURE (FOR EXAMPLE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE). TIMERBAYEV POINTED OUT THAT SOVIET MEMORANDUM PLACED STRESS ON POINT THAT DECISIONS OF SSOD SHOULD RESPECT RESPONSIBILITIES OF MAJOR POWERS AND, THEREFORE, EVEN IF CONSENSUS PROCEDURE NOT ADOPTED SSOD DECISIONS SHOULD REFLECT VIEWS OF MAJOR POWERS WHERE THOSE CONCERN THE DISARMAMENT RESPONSIBILITIES OF THOSE POWERS. HE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN U.S. THOUGHTS ON THIS POINT.

5. ON SUB-PARAS E AND F, TIMERBAYEV STRESSED THAT SOVIETS MAKE SPECIAL POINT THAT SSOD SHOULD LEAD TO WDC AND "WE WILL DO OUR BEST" TO SEE THAT SSOD ADOPTS "DECISION" WHICH WILL LEAD TO WDC. IN THIS REGARD HE REFERRED TO SOVIET NOTE OF MARCH 3 RE SUMMIT LEVEL DECISION ON POSITIVE ROLE CONVENING OF WDC COULD PLAY (PENULTIMATE PARA OF TEXT CONTAINED REF B). SPECIFICALLY, HE CALLED OUR ATTENTION TO JUNE 1974 U.S.-SOVIET SUMMIT LANGUAGE.

6. TIMERBAYEV ALSO TOLD US THAT AMBASSADOR TROYANOVSKIY WAS INSTRUCTED LATE LAST WEEK TO SEEK BILATERAL CONCONFIDENTIAL

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SULTATIONS IN NEW YORK, BUT THAT MOSCOW HAD NOT YET RECEIVED HIS REPORT, ALTHOUGH TIMERBAYEV BELIEVED THAT TROYANOVSKIY HAD MET WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG. HE ALSO INFORMED US THAT TROYANOVSKIY WOULD BE SOVIET REP TO SSOD PREPCOM AND INQUIRED ABOUT U.S. REP.

7. TIMERBAYEV RAISED ONE LAST POINT, ELECTION OF PREPCOM BUREAU, WHICH HE SAID COULD BE EITHER SMALL (5 MEMBERS) OR LARGE (10 MEMBERS). SOVIETS, ACCORDING TO HIM, FAVOR LARGE BUREAU BUT WOULD LIKE TO HAVE BENEFIT OF U.S. VIEWS ON THIS. MAIN POINT AND REASON FOR WISHING LARGER GROUP WAS, HE SAID, THAT POSITIONS OF WEST AND EAST SHOULD BE "DULY REFLECTED IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE BUREAU," WHETHER OR NOT U.S. AND USSR ARE ACTUALLY INCLUDED.

7. COMMENT: IN BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR ON SOCIAL OCCASION MARCH 16 ISRAELYAN PRESSED FOR BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS PARTICULARLY IN NEW YORK, CITING SOV UNEASE ABOUT NON-ALIGNED

NATION'S POSITIONS ON SSOD-A LINE HE HAD PREVIOUSLY TAKEN WITH BRITISH AMBASSADOR. AMBASSADOR SAID WE PREPARED CONSULT BUT ISRAELYAN SHOULD UNDERSTAND WE DIFFER SHARPLY ON SSOD AS STEP TOWARD WDC WHICH WE DO NOT ENDORSE.

8. ONLY REFLECTION OF SOVIET CONCERN OVER NA POSTURE IN TIMERBAYEV'S REMARKS WAS UNCERTAINTY WHETHER CONSENSUS PROCEDURE COULD BE ADOPTED AND NEED TO MAINTAIN FALLBACK POSITION THAT, WITH OR WITHOUT CONSENSUS, RESPONSIBILITIES OF MAJOR POWERS MUST BE RESPECTED. TONE OF TIMERBAYEV'S REMARKS ON CONSENSUS WENT BEYOND HIS INITIAL COMMENT THAT "WE WOULD NOT OBJECT" AND REFLECTED CLEAR PREFERECE FOR THIS PROCEDURE.

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